

Strongly urge that trans-portability be allowed and encouraged. It is anti-competitive and will dampen business expansion if carriers are allowed to "own" numbers which customers have purchased and used for a long time. If people have to leave their numbers behind when leaving a carrier for bad service, high prices, discourtesy, etc. it will cause economic hardship on them which can be avoided. Additionally, chaos will develop as people call a number that used to reach one person but which has been re-assigned to another.